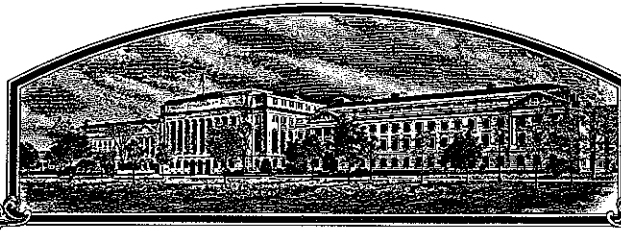


No.

9500164



# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

*Agripco Seeds Inc.*

Whereas, THERE HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO THE

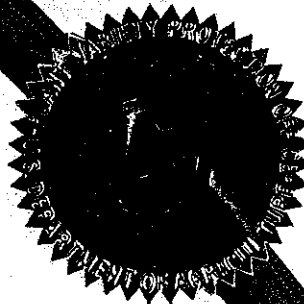
Secretary of Agriculture

AN APPLICATION REQUESTING A CERTIFICATE OF PROTECTION FOR AN ALLEGED DISTINCT VARIETY OF SEXUALLY REPRODUCED, OR TUBER PROPAGATED, PLANT, THE NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF WHICH ARE CONTAINED IN THE APPLICATION AND EXHIBITS, A COPY OF WHICH IS HEREUNTO ANNEXED AND MADE A PART HEREOF, AND THE VARIOUS REQUIREMENTS OF LAW IN SUCH CASES MADE AND PROVIDED HAVE BEEN COMPLIED WITH, AND THE TITLE THERETO IS, FROM THE RECORDS OF THE PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE, IN THE APPLICANT(S) INDICATED IN THE SAID COPY, AND WHEREAS, UPON DUE EXAMINATION MADE, THE SAID APPLICANT(S) IS (ARE) ADJUDGED TO BE ENTITLED TO A CERTIFICATE OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION UNDER THE LAW.

NOW, THEREFORE, THIS CERTIFICATE OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION IS TO GRANT UNTO THE SAID APPLICANT(S) AND THE SUCCESSORS, HEIRS OR ASSIGNS OF THE SAID APPLICANT(S) FOR THE TERM OF TWENTY YEARS FROM THE DATE OF THIS GRANT, SUBJECT TO THE PAYMENT OF THE REQUIRED FEES AND PERIODIC REPLENISHMENT OF VIABLE BASIC SEED OF THE VARIETY IN A PUBLIC REPOSITORY AS PROVIDED BY LAW, THE RIGHT TO EXCLUDE OTHERS FROM SELLING THE VARIETY, OR OFFERING IT FOR SALE, OR REPRODUCING IT, OR IMPORTING IT, OR EXPORTING IT, OR CONDITIONING IT FOR PROPAGATION, OR STOCKING IT FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE PURPOSES, OR USING IT IN PRODUCING A HYBRID OR DIFFERENT VARIETY THEREFROM, TO THE EXTENT PROVIDED BY THE PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION ACT. (84 STAT. 1542, AS AMENDED, 7 U.S.C. 2321 ET SEQ.)

SOYBEAN

'HY 574'



*In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Plant Variety Protection Office to be affixed at the City of Washington, D.C. this thirtieth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight.*

Attest:

*[Signature]*  
Acting Commissioner  
Plant Variety Protection Office  
Agricultural Marketing Service

*[Signature]*  
Secretary of Agriculture

REPRODUCE LOCALLY. Include form number and date on all reproductions.

FORM APPROVAL (MB NO. 0581-0)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DIVISION - PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE

The following statements are made in accordance with the Privacy Act 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995.

**APPLICATION FOR PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION CERTIFICATE**  
(Instructions and information collection burden statement on reverse)

Application is required in order to determine if a plant variety protection certificate is to be issued (7 U.S.C. 2421). Information is held confidential until certificate is issued (7 U.S.C. 2426).

1. NAME OF APPLICANT(S) (as it is to appear on the Certificate)

Agripro Seeds Inc.

2. TEMPORARY DESIGNATION OR  
EXPERIMENTAL NUMBER  
MB92-16  
HB3-X594

3. VARIETY NAME

HY 574

4. ADDRESS (Street and No., or R.F.D. No., City, State, and ZIP Code, and Country)

P.O. Box 2962  
6700 Antioch  
Shawnee Mission, KS 66201-1362

5. TELEPHONE (include area code)  
1-901-537-8650

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

PVPO NUMBER

9500164

6. FAX (include area code)  
1-901-682-1212

DATE

3 May 1995

7. GENUS AND SPECIES NAME

Glycine max

8. FAMILY NAME (Botanical)

Leguminosae

FILING AND EXAMINATION FEE

\$ 2450.00

9. CROP KIND NAME (Common name)

Soybeans

DATE

CERTIFICATION FEE

\$ 300.00

10. IF THE APPLICANT NAMED IS NOT A "PERSON", GIVE FORM OF ORGANIZATION (corporation, partnership, association, etc.) (Common name)

Corporation

DATE

6-8-98

11. IF INCORPORATED, GIVE STATE OF INCORPORATION

Deleware

12. DATE OF INCORPORATION

1994

13. NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT REPRESENTATIVE(S), IF ANY, TO SERVE IN THIS APPLICATION AND RECEIVE ALL PAPERS

Dr. George A. Berger  
Eagle Seed Company  
P.O. Box 308  
8496 Swan Pond Rd.  
Weiner, AR 72479-0308

14. TELEPHONE (include area code)

1-870-684-7377

15. FAX (include area code)

1-870-684-2225

16. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX FOR EACH ATTACHMENT SUBMITTED (Follow instructions on reverse)

a. ☒ Exhibit A. Origin and Breeding History of the Variety

b. ☒ Exhibit B. Statement of Distinctness

c. ☒ Exhibit C. Objective Description of the Variety

d. ☒ Exhibit D. Additional Description of the Variety (Optional)

e. ☒ Exhibit E. Statement of the Basis of the Applicant's Ownership

f. ☒ Voucher Sample (2,500 viable untreated seeds or, for tuber propagated varieties verification that tissue culture will be deposited and maintained in an approved public repository)

g. ☒ Filing and Examination Fee (\$2,450), made payable to "Treasurer of the United States" (Mail to PVPO)

17. DOES THE APPLICANT SPECIFY THAT SEED OF THIS VARIETY BE SOLD BY VARIETY NAME ONLY, AS A CLASS OF CERTIFIED SEED? (See Section 83(a) of the Plant Variety Protection Act)

☐ YES (If "yes," answer items 18 and 19 below)

☒ NO (If "no," go to item 20)

18. DOES THE APPLICANT SPECIFY THAT SEED OF THIS VARIETY BE LIMITED AS TO NUMBER OF GENERATIONS?

☐ YES

☐ NO

19. IF "YES" TO ITEM 18, WHICH CLASSES OF PRODUCTION BEYOND BREEDER SEED?

☐ FOUNDATION

☐ REGISTERED

☐ CERTIFIED

20. HAS THE VARIETY OR A HYBRID PRODUCED FROM THE VARIETY BEEN RELEASED, USED, OFFERED FOR SALE, OR MARKETED IN THE U.S. OR OTHER COUNTRIES?

☐ YES (If "yes," give names of countries and dates)

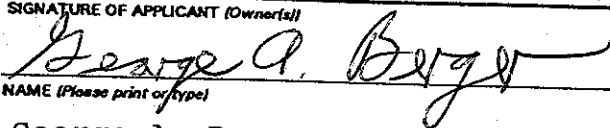
☒ NO

21. The applicant(s) declare that a viable sample of basic seed of the variety will be furnished with application and will be replenished upon request in accordance with such regulations as may be applicable, or for a tuber propagated variety a tissue culture will be deposited in a public repository and maintained for the duration of the certificate.

The undersigned applicant(s) is(are) the owner(s) of this sexually reproduced or tuber propagated plant variety, and believe(s) that the variety is new, distinct, uniform, and stable as required in Section 42, and is entitled to protection under the provisions of Section 42 of the Plant Variety Protection Act.

Applicant(s) is(are) informed that false representation herein can jeopardize protection and result in penalties.

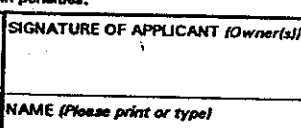
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT (Owner(s))



NAME (Please print or type)

George A. Berger

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT (Owner(s))



NAME (Please print or type)

CAPACITY OR TITLE

Breeder

DATE

4-5-95

CAPACITY OR TITLE

DATE

EXHIBIT A

PV# 9500164

ORIGIN AND BREEDING HISTORY OF THE VARIETY HY 574

HY 574 was a single F4 plant selection from the bulk population of the cross Hutcheson X HSC B2J.

1. This plant was selected at Weiner, Arkansas in 1989. Seed yield was in the top 10% of all plants selected. Preliminary yield trials were conducted in small blocks in 1991 and in large blocks in 1992 at the Weiner research site. This line consistently yielded in the top 10% of all lines and varieties tested. A small increase was started in 1993 and it was entered in some state trials, as HB3X-594.
2. A second seed increase and advanced trials were conducted in 1994 under the variety name HY 574. It continued its excellent performance record and was released on a very limited basis in 1995.
3. In 1991, the small blocks and in 1992 the large blocks were rogued for variant plants. Very few variant plants were found. HY 574 was rogued again during the 1993 and 1994 seed increases. Again, only a very few variant plants were found. An occasional tall variant (.01%) will be found. Seed will have a few dark black hila types (.01%). Periodically, a plant with gray pubescence (1/5000) and a plant with white flowers (1/7000) will be found.
4. All of these characters are acceptable and predictable and have shown stability and uniformity through four generations of seed increase.

## EXHIBIT B

## NOVELTY STATEMENT

PV # 9500164

HY 574 is a novel soybean variety and is most similar to HSC B2J. HY 574 can be distinguished from HSC B2J by its reaction to stem canker, soybean Cyst nematode, frogeye, sudden death syndrome, and by its hila and leaf color.

Variety	Stem 1( Canker	Race 3 2( SCN	Frogeye 3( SWREC Miller	SDS 4( AUDPC	Hila 5( Color	Leaf 6( Color
Hy B2J 574 2/19 12/11/1998	0.3 (R)	S	3.5	10.7 (VS)	2.9 (MR)	59.d.Br. 126.d.Ol.G
Hsc B2J	4.3 (S)	R	0.5	3.3 (S)	0.0 (R)	267. Black 138.v.d.yG

1( Stem Canker

Results reported in Ag-410-11-94. Results of the 1994 Arkansas Soybean Cultivar Disease Screening Program. Data reported on the Arc-Sine Scale where 0.2 equals one plant dead or dying and 4.5 equals 95% of plants dead or dying.

2( Race3 Soybean Cyst Nematode

Ratings reported in Mississippi, Georgia, and Arkansas Soybean Performance Tests.

3( Frogeye

Results reported in AG-410-11-94 as in 1(. Ratings were made according to the Horsfall-Barratt scale which uses a 0-11 scale to describe the percentage of plants showing disease. With this scale 0 = no disease and 11 = 100% disease incidence. Ratings were made at SWREC which stands for the Southwest Research and Extension Center at the Miller County location.

4( Sudden Death Syndrome

Results reported in AG-410-11-94 as in 1(. AUDPC equals the area under the disease progress curve which is a measure of the disease over time. Simply put, the higher the AUDCP, the more severe the disease.

5( 6( Hila and Leaf Color

Color determinations were made by using the ISCC-NBS Centroid Color Charts.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE  
LIVESTOCK, MEAT, GRAIN & SEED DIVISION  
PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE  
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND 20705

EXHIBIT C  
(Soybean)

OBJECTIVE DESCRIPTION OF VARIETY  
SOYBEAN (*Glycine max* L.)

NAME OF APPLICANT(S) <b>Hyperformer Seed Company</b>	TEMPORARY DESIGNATION MB92-16 HB3X-594 or	VARIETY NAME HY 574
ADDRESS (Street and No., or R.F.D. No., City, State, and Zip Code) One HY Crop Row Memphis, TN 38120		FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY PVPO NUMBER 9500164

Choose the appropriate response which characterizes the variety in the features described below. When the number of significant digits in your answer is fewer than the number of boxes provided, place a zero in the first box when number is 9 or less (e.g., ).

## 1. SEED SHAPE:



1 = Spherical (L/W, L/T, and T/W ratios =  $\leq 1.2$ )  
3 = Elongate (L/T ratio  $> 1.2$ ; T/W =  $\leq 1.2$ )

2 = Spherical Flattened (L/W ratio  $> 1.2$ ; L/T ratio =  $\leq 1.2$ )  
4 = Elongate Flattened (L/T ratio  $> 1.2$ ; T/W  $> 1.2$ )

## 2. SEED COAT COLOR: (Mature Seed)

1 = Yellow

2 = Green

3 = Brown

4 = Black

5 = Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. SEED COAT LUSTER: (Mature Hand Shelled Seed)

1 = Dull ('Corsoy 79'; 'Braxton')

2 = Shiny ('Nebsoy'; 'Gasoy 17')

## 4. SEED SIZE: (Mature Seed)

Grams per 100 seeds

## 5. HILUM COLOR: (Mature Seed)

1 = Buff

2 = Yellow

3 = Brown

4 = Gray

5 = Imperfect Black

6 = Black

7 = Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

## 6. COTYLEDON COLOR: (Mature Seed)

1 = Yellow

2 = Green

## 7. SEED PROTEIN PEROXIDASE ACTIVITY:

1 = Low

2 = High

## 8. SEED PROTEIN ELECTROPHORETIC BAND:

1 = Type A (SP<sup>1a</sup>)2 = Type B (SP<sup>1b</sup>)

## 9. HYPOCOTYL COLOR:

1 = Green only ('Evans'; 'Davis')

2 = Green with bronze band below cotyledons ('Woodworth'; 'Tracy')

3 = Light Purple below cotyledons ('Beeson'; 'Pickett 71')

4 = Dark Purple extending to unifoliate leaves ('Hodgson'; 'Coker Hampton 266A')

## 10. LEAFLET SHAPE:

1 = Lanceolate

2 = Oval

3 = Ovate

4 = Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

9500164

## 11. LEAFLET SIZE:

☐ 21 = Small ('Amsoy 71'; 'A5312')  
3 = Large ('Crawford'; 'Tracy')

2 = Medium ('Corsoy 79'; 'Gasoy 17')

## 12. LEAF COLOR:

☐ 21 = Light Green ('Weber'; 'York')  
3 = Dark Green ('Gnome'; 'Tracy')

2 = Medium Green ('Corsoy 79'; 'Braxton')

## 13. FLOWER COLOR:

☐ 2

1 = White

2 = Purple

3 = White with purple throat

## 14. POD COLOR:

☐ 1

1 = Tan

2 = Brown

3 = Black

## 15. PLANT PUBESCENCE COLOR:

☐ 2

1 = Gray

2 = Brown (Tawny)

## 16. PLANT TYPES:

☐ 21 = Slender ('Essex'; 'Amsoy 71')  
3 = Bushy ('Gnome'; 'Govan')

2 = Intermediate ('Amcor'; 'Braxton')

## 17. PLANT HABIT:

☐ 11 = Determinate ('Gnome'; 'Braxton')  
3 = Indeterminate ('Nebsoy'; 'Improved Pelican')

2 = Semi-Determinate ('Will')

## 18. MATURITY GROUP:

☐ 0 ☐ 81 = 000  
9 = VI2 = 00  
10 = VII3 = 0  
11 = VIII4 = I  
12 = IX5 = II  
13 = X

6 = III

7 = IV

8 = V

## 19. DISEASE REACTION: (Enter 0 = Not Tested; 1 = Susceptible; 2 = Resistant)

## BACTERIAL DISEASES:

☐ RBacterial Pustule (*Xanthomonas phaseoli* var. *sojensis*)☐ RBacterial Blight (*Pseudomonas glycinea*)☐ RWildfire (*Pseudomonas tabaci*)

## FUNGAL DISEASES:

☐ 0Brown Spot (*Septoria glycines*)Frogeye Leaf Spot (*Cercospora sojae*)☐ 0

Race 1

☐ 0

Race 2

☐ 0

Race 3

☐ 0

Race 4

☐ 0

Race 5

☐ SOther (Specify)  
Unknown☐ RTarget Spot (*Corynespora cassiicola*)☐ RDowny Mildew (*Peronospora trifoliorum* var. *manshurica*)☐ RPowdery Mildew (*Microspora diffusa*)☐ 0Brown Stem Rot (*Cephalosporium gregatum*)☐ RStem Canker (*Diaporthe phaseolorum* var. *caulivora*)

## 19. DISEASE REACTION: (Enter 0 = Not Tested; 1 = Susceptible; 2 = Resistant) (Continued)

## FUNGAL DISEASES: (Continued)

☒ Pod and Stem Blight (*Diaporthe phaseolorum* var. *sojae*)  
☒ Purple Seed Stain (*Cercospora kikuchii*)  
☐ Rhizoctonia Root Rot (*Rhizoctonia solani*)  
 Phytophthora Rot (*Phytophthora megasperma* var. *sojae*)  
☒ Race 1   ☐ Race 2   ☐ Race 3   ☐ Race 4   ☐ Race 5   ☐ Race 6   ☒ Race 7  
☐ Race 8   ☐ Race 9   ☐ Other (Specify) Unknown

## VIRAL DISEASES:

☐ Bud Blight (Tobacco Ringspot Virus)  
☐ Yellow Mosaic (Bean Yellow Mosaic Virus)  
☐ Cowpea Mosaic (Cowpea Chlorotic Virus)  
☐ Pod Mottle (Bean Pod Mottle Virus)  
☐ Seed Mottle (Soybean Mosaic Virus)

## NEMATODE DISEASES:

Soybean Cyst Nematode (*Heterodera glycines*)  
☐ Race 1   ☐ Race 2   ☒ Race 3   ☒ Race 4   ☒ Other (Specify) 9  
☐ Lance Nematode (*Hoplolaimus Colombus*)  
☒ Southern Root Knot Nematode (*Meloidogyne incognita*)  
☐ Northern Root Knot Nematode (*Meloidogyne Hapla*)  
☒ Peanut Root Knot Nematode (*Meloidogyne arenaria*)  
☐ Reniform Nematode (*Rotylenchulus reniformis*)  
☐ OTHER DISEASE NOT ON FORM (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

## 20. PHYSIOLOGICAL RESPONSES: (Enter 0 = Not Tested; 1 = Susceptible; 2 = Resistant)

☐ Iron Chlorosis on Calcareous Soil  
☐ Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

## 21. INSECT REACTION: (Enter 0 = Not Tested; 1 = Susceptible; 2 = Resistant)

☐ Mexican Bean Beetle (*Epilachna varivestis*)  
☐ Potato Leaf Hopper (*Empoasca fabae*)  
☐ Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

## 22. INDICATE WHICH VARIETY MOST CLOSELY RESEMBLES THAT SUBMITTED.

CHARACTER	NAME OF VARIETY	CHARACTER	NAME OF VARIETY
Plant Shape	HSC B2J	Seed Coat Luster	HSC B2J
Leaf Shape	HSC B2J	Seed Size	Hutcheson
Leaf Color	HSC B2J	Seed Shape	HSC B2J
Leaf Size	HSC B2J	Seedling Pigmentation	Coker Hampton 266A

## 23. GIVE DATA FOR SUBMITTED AND SIMILAR STANDARD VARIETY: Paired Comparison Data

VARIETY	NO. OF DAYS MATURITY	PLANT LODGING SCORE	CM PLANT HEIGHT	LEAFLET SIZE		SEED CONTENT		SEED SIZE G/100 SEEDS	NO. SEEDS/ POD
				CM Width	CM Length	% Protein	% Oil		
HY 574 Submitted	56.9	1.6	28.9	0	0	35.7	20.2	17.3	3
HSC B2J Name of Similar Variety	60.4	1.4	30.9	0	0	36.2	19.6	15.0	2

## PUBLICATIONS USEFUL AS REFERENCE AIDS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM:

1. Caldwell, B.E., ed. 1973. Soybeans: Improvement, Production, and Uses. Amer. Soc. Agron. Monograph No. 16.
2. Buttery, B.R. and R.I. Buzzell. 1968. Peroxidase activity in seeds of soybean varieties. Crop Sci., 8: 722-725.
3. Hymowitz, T. 1973. Electrophoretic analysis of SBT1-A<sub>2</sub> in the USDA soybean germplasm collection. Crop Sci., 13: 420-421.
4. Payne, R.C. and L.F. Morris. 1976. Differentiation of soybean cultivars by seedling pigmentation patterns. J. Seed Technol. 1: 1-19.

95 APR 11 AIO:36

RECEIVED  
USDA-AMS-PVPO



9500164

## EXHIBIT D

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION OF THE VARIETYVariety NameLeaf Color 1(

HY 663

127.gy.ol. G

Young

125.m.ol G

- 1( Data taken from 1997 side-by-side comparisons. Color determinations were made by using the ISCC-NBS Centroid Color Charts.

JUL 31 1998

JUL 31 1998  
EAGLE SEED CO.

8

**EXHIBIT E**  
**STATEMENT OF THE BASIS OF OWNERSHIP**

The following statements are made in accordance with the Privacy Act 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995.

Application is required in order to determine if a plant variety protection certificate is to be issued (7 U.S.C. 2421). Information is held confidential until certificate is issued (7 U.S.C. 2426).

1. NAME OF APPLICANT(S) Agripro Seeds, Inc.		2. TEMPORARY DESIGNATION OR EXPERIMENTAL NUMBER MB92-16 HBC3-X564	3. VARIETY NAME HY 574
4. ADDRESS (Street and No., or R.F.D. No., City, State, and ZIP Code, and Country) P.O. Box 2962 6700 Antioch Shawnee Mission, KS 66201-1362		5. TELEPHONE (include area code) 1-901-537-8650	6. FAX (include area code) 1-901-682-1212
		7. PVPO NUMBER 9500164	
8. Does the applicant own all rights to the variety? Mark an "X" in appropriate block. If no, please explain. <div style="text-align: right;"> <input type="checkbox"/> YES    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO         </div> <p>The Breeder and Owner of the variety is Dr. George A. Berger. Exclusive marketing rights are assigned to Agripro Seeds, Inc. by Dr. Berger. Dr. Berger will serve as the applicants representative.</p>			
9. Is the applicant (individual or company) a U.S. national or U.S. based company? If no, give name of country _____ <div style="text-align: right;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES    <input type="checkbox"/> NO         </div>			
10. Is the applicant the original owner? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO    If no, please answer the following: <p>a. If original rights to variety were owned by individual(s), is (are) the original owner(s) a U.S. national(s)?  <input type="checkbox"/> YES    <input type="checkbox"/> NO    If no, give name of country _____</p> <p>b. If original rights to variety were owned by a company, is the original owner(s) a U.S. based company?  <input type="checkbox"/> YES    <input type="checkbox"/> NO    If no, give name of country _____</p>			
11. Additional explanation on ownership (If needed, use reverse for extra space):   			

**PLEASE NOTE:**

Plant variety protection can be afforded only to owners (not licensees) who meet one of the following criteria:

- If the rights to the variety are owned by the original breeder, that person must be a U.S. national, national of a UPOV member country, or national of a country which affords similar protection to nationals of the U.S. for the same genus and species.
- If the rights to the variety are owned by the company which employed the original breeder(s), the company must be U.S. based, owned by nationals of a UPOV member country, or owned by nationals of a country which affords similar protection to nationals of the U.S. for the same genus and species.
- If the applicant is an owner who is not the original owner, both the original owner and the applicant must meet one of the above criteria.

The original breeder/owner may be the individual or company who directed final breeding. See Section 41(a)(2) of the Plant Variety Protection Act for definition.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0581-0055. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA Office of Communications at (202) 720-5881 (voice) or (202) 720-7808 (TDD). To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, or call 1-800-245-6340 (voice) or (202) 720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.